



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr, Austin Fire Department
Rob Spillar, Director, Austin Transportation Department
Kevin Johns, Director, Economic Development Department

DATE: November 27, 2017

SUBJECT: December 7, 2017 Council Agenda – Adoption of 2015 International Fire Code

On December 7th, the Council will conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance adopting the 2015 International Fire Code and related local amendments. This item was postponed from the November 2, 2017 Council agenda in order to consult further with stakeholders.

The Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) and the Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission (Mueller Commission) have both requested that the Council delay any changes to Sections 503.2.1 (*Dimensions and Exceptions*) and 503.2.2 (*Authority*) of the proposed ordinance to gather input from stakeholders regarding the impact of the Fire Code's street width limits. Staff from the Austin Fire, Transportation, and Economic Development Departments concur with delaying any changes to these Sections until a stakeholder input process can be conducted.

As such, the ordinance before Council on December 7th would adopt the 2015 International Fire Code and the majority of local amendments, but would not make any changes to Sections 503.2.1 (*Dimensions and Exceptions*) and 503.2.2 (*Authority*). These sections will remain unchanged from the current Fire Code requirements set forth in Ordinance No. 20130606-092.

The ordinance coming to Council on December 7th will also direct the City Manager to bring an ordinance to the Council by June 30, 2018 that incorporates any recommended changes to these sections. This should allow sufficient time for department staff to coordinate and collaborate, as well as time to conduct a stakeholder input process to consider whether the existing road width dimensions, exceptions to road width dimensions, and the related fire chief authority should be further amended.

cc: Elaine Hart, Interim City Manager
Rey Arellano, Assistant City Manager, Public Safety
Robert Goode, Assistant City Manager, Infrastructure
Greg Canally, Interim Chief Financial Officer